

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 12, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 151

Introduced by Assembly Member Wilk

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Allen, Atkins, Bigelow, Bloom, Bocanegra, Bonilla, Bonta, Bradford, Brown, Buchanan, Ian Calderon, Campos, Chau, Chávez, Chesbro, Conway, Cooley, Dababneh, Dahle, Daly, Dickinson, Donnelly, Eggman, Fong, Fox, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Garcia, Gatto, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gray, Grove, Hagman, Holden, Jones-Sawyer, Linder, Lowenthal, Maienschein, Mansoor, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, Nestande, Olsen, Pan, Patterson, Perea, V. Manuel Pérez, Quirk, Quirk-Silva, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Salas, Skinner, Stone, Ting, Wagner, Weber, and Yamada)

May 19, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 151—Relative to Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG) Awareness Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 151, as amended, Wilk. Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG) Awareness Week.

This measure would declare the week of May 25, 2014, to May 31, 2014, inclusive, as Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG) Awareness Week to honor those who work to make research and resources a reality for children suffering from DIPG and their families.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The Legislature recognizes that the quality and
2 character of life in the communities across the State of California
3 are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those
4 organizations and individuals that are devoted to the welfare of
5 the community and its citizenry; and

6 WHEREAS, In this regard, the Legislature commends the efforts
7 of the Jack's Angels Foundation and other similar foundations for
8 their continuing efforts to raise awareness of, and fight against,
9 malignant brain tumors; and

10 WHEREAS, James-William "Jack" Demeter, the namesake of
11 the Jack's Angels Foundation, lost the fight against Diffuse
12 Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG) at the age of three; and

13 WHEREAS, DIPG is a malignant brain tumor that affects the
14 brain stem. Only children are afflicted with DIPG and it is usually
15 diagnosed between five and nine years of age; and

16 WHEREAS, According to Dr. Sabine Meuller of the University
17 of California at San Francisco, DIPG is one of the worst diagnoses
18 a patient and his or her family can face. There are essentially no
19 long-term survivors and median survival is only about 9 months.
20 Progress has been hampered by the perceived risk of biopsy of
21 these tumors. To date, no therapy has been shown to be effective
22 and children with DIPG are often treated on early phase 1 clinical
23 trials with a trial-and-error approach; and

24 WHEREAS, The Jack's Angels Foundation is a nonprofit
25 corporation that donates all money raised to establish a new DIPG
26 research fund at the Los Angeles Children's Hospital. The
27 foundation is committed to promoting the most innovative research
28 and clinical trials to help shed light on the nature of DIPG and the
29 genetic anomalies that cause it. In order that there be greater hope
30 for survival, the foundation also actively researches cures for DIPG
31 through medical trials and scientific research; and

32 WHEREAS, The mission of the Jack's Angels Foundation is
33 also to support the quality of life for patients diagnosed with DIPG
34 patients and their families; and

35 WHEREAS, The mission of the Jack's Angels Foundation also
36 includes increasing public awareness and understanding of DIPG,
37 potentially increasing the protocol for pediatric brain tumor
38 research, and increasing investment by pharmaceutical companies
39 in research pertaining to DIPG; and

1 WHEREAS, It is the intent of the Legislature to call attention
2 to organizations, like the Jack's Angels Foundation, that serve to
3 bring people together for the united purpose of actively pursuing
4 improvements in their communities; now, therefore, be it

5 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
6 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature pause in its deliberations
7 to honor those who raise awareness of, and fight against, malignant
8 brain tumors, including DIPG; and be it further

9 *Resolved*, That the Legislature hereby declares the week of May
10 25, 2014, to May 31, 2014, inclusive, as Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine
11 Glioma (DIPG) Awareness Week to honor those who work to
12 make research and resources a reality for children suffering from
13 DIPG and their families; and be it further

14 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
15 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.